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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5-8, 13-18, 21-25, 27-29, 32-34 and 41-43 as follows:

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the lock solution includes a viscosifying agent selected from polyethylene glycol, glycerin, polygeline and mixtures thereof.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the lock solution has a pH level between about 4.5 and about 6.5.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the lumen of the catheter has an internal volume and said infusing includes infusing the lumen with an amount of the lock solution sufficient to fill between about 80% and about 100% of the internal volume of the lumen.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the catheter has an internal volume and said adding includes injecting the catheter with an amount of the lock solution greater than or equal to about 1.1 times the internal volume of the lumen.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lock solution includes a viscosifying agent selected from polyethylene glycol, glycerin, polygeline or mixtures thereof.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lock solution has a density of between about 1.02 g/ml to about 1.04 g/ml and a viscosity of between about 1.5 cP and about 4.0 cP.

B2
15. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lock solution has a density of between about 1.02 g/ml and about 1.03 g/ml a viscosity of between about 1.5 cP and about 2.0 cP.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lumen of the catheter has an internal volume and said infusing includes infusing the lumen with an amount of the lock solution sufficient to fill between about 80% and about 100% of the internal volume of the lumen.

17. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lumen of the catheter has an internal volume and said infusing includes infusing the lumen with an amount of the lock solution greater than or equal to about 1.1 times the internal volume of the lumen.

18. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the lock solution has a pH level between about 4.5 and about 6.5.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the bactericidal component includes greater than about 90%, by weight based on the weight of the bactericidal component, of a citrate salt.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the lock solution includes a viscosifying agent.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable lock solution has a pH between about 4.5 and about 6.5.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the lumen of the catheter has an internal volume and said infusing includes infusing the lumen with an amount of the lock solution sufficient to fill between about 80% and about 100% of the internal volume of the lumen.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the lumen of the catheter has an internal volume and said infusing includes infusing the lumen with an amount of the lock solution greater than or equal to about 1.1 times the internal volume of the lumen.

27. (Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said lock solution comprises a sodium citrate salt.

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28. (Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein the lock solution comprises a viscosifying agent selected from polyethylene glycol, glycerin, polygeline and mixtures thereof.

29. (Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein the lock solution has a density of between about 1.0 and about 1.5 and a viscosity of between about 1.5 cP and 4.0 cP.

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32. (Amended) The device of claim 30 wherein the lock solution has a pH level between about 4.5 and about 6.5.

33. (Amended) The device of claim 30 wherein the lock solution includes a viscosifying agent selected from polyethylene glycol, glycerin, polygeline and mixtures thereof.

34. (Amended) The device of claim 30 wherein the lock solution has a density between about 1.0 and about 1.5 and a viscosity between about 1.5 cP and about 4.0 cP.

B⁶

41. (Amended) The composition of claim 39 wherein the lock solution includes, in weigh percent, about 10% to about 40% of the citrate salt.

B⁶ 42. (Amended) The composition of claim 39 wherein the citrate salt is trisodium citrate.

43. (Amended) The composition of claim 39 comprising heparin.

Respectfully submitted

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